

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0766

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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AMEMBASSY OSLO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB, FR

SUBJECT: CGT AND MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES

1. JEAN BRETEAU, SECRETARY GENERAL OF CGT METAL WORKERS FEDERATION, REVEALED IN PRESS CONFERENCE 9 JULY THAT THE NORWEGIAN TRADE UNION OF ITT PLANT IN OSLO INVITED CGT FROM FRANCE AND GERMAN, BRITISH AND ITALIAN UNIONS OF ITT PLANTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES TO A CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS COMMON PROBLEMS AND STRATEGY. NO DATE WAS GIVEN FOR CONFERENCE.

2. BRETEAU ANNOUNCED ALSO THAT THE UK UNION OF SINGER EXTENDED SIMILAR INVITATION TO CGT AND OTHER EUROPEAN UNIONS IN SINGER PLANTS TO A JOINT CONFERENCE FOR WHICH AGAIN NO DATE WAS GIVEN.

3. BRETEAU CONCLUDED WITH STATEMENT THAT ORGANIZATION
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OF SUCH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES OF UNIONS IN

MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES SHOULD BE A PRIORITY OBJECTIVE. HE ADDED THAT THIS ITEM WILL BE ON THE AGENDA OF THE FORTHCOMING CONGRESS OF THE WFTU INDUSTRIAL UNION DEPARTMENT FOR METAL WORKERS WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 1974 IN VICHY, FRANCE.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST TIME THAT WFTU OR ANY OF ITS INDUSTRIAL UNION DEPARTMENTS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO CARRY OUT ANY ACTIVITY IN FRANCE SINCE 1949 WHEN WFTU WAS EXPELLED FROM PARIS AND MOVED ITS HEADQUARTERS TO PRAGUE. IT WILL COME OF COURSE AS NO SURPRISE THAT CGT IS SEIZING EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO CAST ITSELF AS A PROTAGONIST IN THE CURRENT FASHIONABLE CAMPAIGN AGAINST MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES.
IRWIN

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